

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01741 120847Z

21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 046123

R 111357Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8111

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 1741

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS ET SU

SUBJ: CISCO TWO

REF: A) STATE 29903, B) HARTOUM 0367, C) ADDIS 1445

1. AT SUCH TIME AS CISCO TWO ARE RELEASED, OUR MOST IMMEDIATE CONCERN WILL BE THAT EPMG IS INFORMED OF THAT FACT BY US RATHER THAN VIA SOME OTHER CHANNEL, I.E., MEDIA, OWN DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES, OR THIRD COUNTRY. WHILE WE WOULD PREFER BRIEF ETHIOPIANS JUST PRIOR TO RELEASE AS INDICATED REFTEL (C), WE REALIZE THAT HITCHES CAN DEVELOP AND BELIEVE PROBLEM IS PROBABLY MANAGEABLE IF WE ARE NOTIFIED PROMPTLY OF RELEASE AND AUTHORIZED TO INFORM EPMG.

2. WE WOULD , HOWEVER, HAVE TO TELL ETHIOPIANS MORE THAN SIMPLE FACT AND PLACE OF RELEASE AS SUGGESTED REFTEL (B), PARTICULARLY IF RELEASE OCCURS IN SAUDI ARABIA AFTER TRANSIT OF SUDAN. WE DO NOT WISH GIVE EPMG ANY OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEMPT INTERFERE WITH RELEASE PROCEDURE. ON OTHER HAND, GIVEN ETHIOPIAN SENSITIVITIES AND SUSPICIONS

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WHICH WELL KNOWN TO DEPT, WE DO NOT WISH GIVE OPENING TO

ETHIOPIANS TO GIVE VENT TO THEIR SUSPICIONS BY TELLING
THEM TOO LITTLE, AND WOULD HOPE DEPT WILL KEEP THIS IN MIND
IN FORMULATING INSTRUCTIONS AT TIME OF RELEASE.
HUMMEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: KIDNAPPING, INFORMATION SECURITY, PRISONERS RELEASE
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Draft Date: 11 FEB 1976
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: vogelfj
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